

**Minutes for Sustainable Fisheries GIT Executive Committee Meeting  
October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 from 9:00am-12:00pm (Noon)**

**In Attendance:** Peyton Robertson, Tom O'Connell, Jack Travelstead, Bryan King, A.C. Carpenter, Bruce Vogt, Derek Orner, Nancy Butowski, Jon Kramer, Howard Townsend, Mike Fritz, Steve Meyers, Adam Davis

**Presentations**

**1.) Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) Presentation (20min + 10min Q&A)**

- Handout:
  - *EPA TMDL ppt for MD 10-13.pptx*
  - *MDE\_WIP ppt for Oct13.PPT*
- Mike Fritz presented background information of the WIPs.
  - The WIPs are the states' (and district's) individual plans for meeting the EPA enforced TMDL's nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment allocations
- Best ways for Fisheries GIT to get involved?
  - Provide formal comments and get engaged at the state level
  - ExComm members have not tried to influence the WIPs yet
    - The Fisheries GIT has additional leverage in fact that a healthy watershed is more than just water quality
  - The Fisheries GIT can explain the tangible benefits of what a restored Chesapeake Bay *should* look like (eg healthy fisheries resources)

**2.) Ecosystem Modeling Runs to Explore Menhaden Policy (15min + 5-10min Q&A)**

- Handout: *CBFEM Menhaden Runs\_GIT\_Townsend\_100710.pdf*
- Howard Townsend presented his preliminary Menhaden model runs for the ASMFC meeting
  - The model presently uses 2002 data and needs to be updated with current stock assessments
    - These updates will feed back to ASMFC technical committee
  - The current management goal for Menhaden is a 10% MSP, but the model outputs show decreases in both striped bass and adult menhaden as a result
    - Recalibration of the model will probably not result in such a significant loss
      - a. Updates to the model are expected to take approximately six months, so a finished model output will not be available for the November ASMFC management board meeting

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**Business: (Decisional)**

**3.) FY2011 Fisheries Science Program Competitive Solicitation Process**

- Handout: *FY2011 Fisheries Science Program Competitive Solicitation Process 092910.pdf*

- Initiated an open transparent process to solicit research needs from the bay scientific and management community
- Derek Orner has emailed the full GIT, and will be calling to talk about ideas/projects and to answer any remaining questions
- **Action Items:** Send out memo with dates
  - Completed list of research topics by end of October or beginning of November
  - FFO must be submitted by mid-Nov. for publication by Dec./Jan.

#### 4.) Sustainable Fisheries GIT Workplan

- Handout: *Sustainable Fisheries GIT Workplan (v7).pdf*
- GIT ExComm agreed to the workplan in concept. Workplan priorities are oysters, blue catfish, blue crab, and landuse communication pathways.
- MD and VA see a critical need to track and evaluate GIT performance
- Blue Catfish
  - Process should be initiated at December full GIT meeting
    - Groups should synthesize science and present to full GIT
  - STAC should be the rapid response team for GIT science needs; FEW will concentrate on longer-term EBFM goals
    - John Kramer and the FEW supports this idea
- **Action Item:** GIT staff will reach out to STAC to develop a scientific synthesis for blue catfish to be presented at the December meeting

#### 5.) Establishing an Oyster Team

- Handout: *Oyster Restoration Success Metrics and Monitoring protocols 092410.pdf*
- GIT agreed to need for putting together a consistent method for evaluating oyster success (unified baywide metrics)
- Consensus was that a smaller team (~6 members including MD DNR, VMRC, NOAA, USACE) may be more effective
  - Need to develop obtainable goals and produce meaningful results
  - **Action:** Revise Oyster Restoration Success Metrics and Monitoring protocols team membership and circulate to the GIT ExComm for approval. Establish the team and first meeting.

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### **Bay Program Tasks**

#### 6.) Indicator Changes for STAR

- Handouts:
  - *CrabAbundanceRecommendations2010BBforSTAR\_bv.pdf*
  - *FisheriesManagementIndicesOptionsRecommendations2010BBforSTARBV.pdf*
- Blue Crab Abundance Indicator: indicator change was to use the control rule
- Fisheries Management Effort Indices: Remove with possibility for replacement
- **Action Item:** Revise documents making corrections mentioned at meeting- Completed.

## 7.) Recommendations for ChesapeakeStat

- Top three topic areas that are unlikely to change significantly with any changes to our goals
    - 1.) Oysters (tributary specific)
    - 2.) Juvenile Reproduction Indices
    - 3.) YOY for Striped Bass
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## Future Topics

### 8.) Cownose Rays

- Handout: *cownose+ray+group+letter+VA+8+10[1].pdf*
  - **Action Item**: Distribute 1957 Cownose Ray research paper
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## Administrative

### 9.) Future Executive Committee Meetings

- Regular ExComm meetings will now be scheduled for the third Monday of the month from 1:00pm-3:00pm
    - **Next Meeting**: November 15<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm-3:00pm
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## Updates

### 10.) The December Full GIT meeting is scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup> at William & Mary Alumni House in Leadership Hall

- Looking into reserving December 1<sup>st</sup> as well (may need a different location)
- Possible Agenda Items:
  - Blue Catfish Policy
  - GIT-FEW Come Together (Facilitated)
  - Fisheries Science and Monitoring
  - Oysters
  - Blue Crab Catch Shares
  - Oyster Data Tool (Howard Townsend)